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STAR OF MYSORE

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Clean hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand rub
Cover nose and mouth when coughing with tissue or flexed elbow
Avoid close contact with anyone with cold or flu-like symptoms
SOUTHERN STAR
MYSURU

COVID Medical Warriors go home after 24 days

They complete 10 days of high-risk work and 14 days of quarantine

Nursing staff leave the hotel after their days of COVID duty in city this morning. They were given fruits and groceries as a goodwill gesture.

Mysuru, Apr. 29 (RKB&BCT)- Doctors and nursing staff drenched in sweat after wearing critical care Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for long hours personify the heroism of Coronavirus pandemic. They put themselves in harm's way to treat their patients.

These doctors and medical staff have gone through a tough time during the fight against the pandemic and they have not gone back home for many days and were spending their off-duty hours in hotels arranged by the Mysuru District Administration. Though they have been provided comfortable accommodation, it was not a substitute for home and family.

Away from their families, these doctors and healthcare workers are fighting at multiple fronts like warriors. Today in Mysuru, the first batch of 16 doctors and nurses who treated infected patients at the designated COVID-19 Hospital (District Hospital) on KRS Road went home after undergoing their mandatory 14-day quarantine.

These doctors and nurses worked in shifts at the Hospital for 10 days and stayed in 14-day quarantine at Hotel Rajalakshmi Comforts on New Sayyaji Rao Road. Yesterday eight members of the batch left to their homes while today, eight more members reached homes, happily.

(See WARRIORS on page 6)

Catch of the Day!

38-kg fish caught from Harangi backwaters

Kushalnagar, Apr. 29 (Akshay&BCT)- A group of youths who were fishing at Harangi backwaters in Kodagu District this morning were in for a pleasant surprise as they caught a giant fish that weighed 38 kgs.

The fish was caught with the traditional method of fishing rod and angler.

The fish, Catla variety, was caught at Nakoor village along the Harangi backwaters by Preveesh, who then uploaded the same on his Facebook page.

(See FISH on page 6)

Actor Irrfan Khan dies at 53

He had come to Mysuru to inaugurate Chinnara Mela at Rangayana in 2015

Mumbai, Apr. 29 (Agencies)- Bollywood actor Irrfan Khan died in Kokilaben Dhirubhai Ambani Hospital today. Khan, 53, was being treated for a colon infection and just hours before he died, his spokesperson said he "was still fighting the battle."

A statement released by his family said, "Irrfan was buried at the Versova kabrastan in Mumbai at 3 pm this afternoon soon after the news of his passing away was announced. In presence were his family, close relatives and friends. Everyone paid their final respects and mourned the loss of his passing away. We

Irrfan Khan

pray for his peace and we hope he's in a better place today. He was strong in his fight, and we all have to be strong too in this loss."

Irrfan Khan's wife Sutapa Sikdar and two sons were photographed exiting the Mumbai hospital in the afternoon. Irrfan had lost his mother, Saeeda Begum, four days before his death. She died on Saturday at the age of 95 and Irrfan could not even attend her funeral. Due to the ongoing lockdown, Irrfan could not travel from Mumbai to Jaipur and instead attended the funeral on video.

Khan, one of India's most respected actors, battled a tumour for several months and returned to Mumbai some months ago after being treated in London.

(See Irrfan Khan on page 6)

STAR PUNCH

By Satish Acharya

Boys... COVID is no fun !

In India, which is known to have great following for Cricket rather than any other sports, 'Galli Cricket' is no new thing. But at this hour of crisis, when even the daily wager, who might be the only bread earner to his family, is forced to stay home to make sure we win the war against the deadly pandemic, here this section of people don't seem to understand the severity. Picture shows boys engaged in cricket at Maharaja's College premises, with not even a mask as a precaution against COVID-19. Similar scenes can be found at many areas not frequented by Police. Please grow up boys and play it safe.

Love will have to wait: Kerala quintuplets' wedding delayed

(From left) ***Quintuplets Uthraja, Uthara, Uthrajan (brother), Uthama and Uthra.***

Thiruvananthapuram, Apr. 29 (Agencies)- If there was no lockdown, the quintuplets (five children in one birth) of 'Pancharatnam' House at Nannattukavu in Pothencode in Kerala would have entered a new phase of life as four of them were to enter wedlock the same day and at the same venue on Sunday, Apr. 26.

The four girls of the quintuplets named Uthraja, Uthra, Uthara and Uthama were to get married under the auspices of their only brother Uthrajan. They are children of Ramadevi and late Premakumar. The wedding ceremony was to take place at Guruvayur Sri Krishna Temple.

Uthra, who is a fashion designer, was to tie the knot with Ayoor native K. S. Ajith Kumar, a hotel manager in Muscat. Uthraja, an anaesthesia technician at Kochi Amrita Medical College, was to marry Pathanamthitta native Akash, who is also an anaesthesia technician in Kuwait. An online journalist, Uthara was to marry Kozhikode native journalist Mahesh. Uthama, an anaesthesia technician at a private hospital in Thiruvananthapuram, was to tie the knot with Vattiyoorkavu native Vineeth, an accountant in Muscat. Their lone brother Uthrajan is an IT professional.

But the lockdown played the spoilsport. However, the family is hopeful of realising their dream once the lockdown is over. Ramadevi said that almost all arrangements were done and many people were invited to marriage. A single invitation card was prepared for all the weddings.

But since three of the bridegrooms are working abroad and could not reach home so far and two of the brides are working in medical field, the families of the bridegrooms also agreed to postpone all the four marriages to another date.

After the unexpected death of Premakumar when the children were only 9 years old, Ramadevi struggled hard to raise them with an ailing heart. She is living with a pacemaker. The Government granted job to Ramadevi in District Cooperative Bank in Pothencode branch. Thus she managed to live peacefully with the children.

The quintuplets were born in November 1995 at SAT Hospital in Thiruvananthapuram with only minutes apart. As they were born on 'Uthram' day, they were given names adding the day. Keralites were eager to know every milestone in their life such as first day at school, victory in exams, first vote and the like.

DYES and MPL to host online

Chess Tournament to raise relief funds

Minister C.T. Ravi calls upon chess players to take part in large numbers and help checkmate COVID-19

Mysuru, Apr.29- The Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports (DYES), Government of Karnataka, will be hosting an online Chess Tournament to raise funds for COVID-19 relief, in association with United Karnataka Chess Association (UKCA - Affiliated to AICF, recognised by the Karnataka Government) and Bengaluru-based Mobile Premier League (MPL), a mobile gaming platform.

The tournament will be held on May 2 and 3, on the MPL app and all proceeds from the tournament (after accounting for prize money) will be donated to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund towards the fight against COVID-19.

This online Chess Tournament is open to everyone across India for an entry fee of Rs. 50. The total prize pool for the Tournament is Rs.10 lakh and the first prize consists of Rs.1 lakh.

MPL currently has a user base of over 40 million across the country and a huge number is expected to participate in the tournament. Registration for the Tournament is open on the MPL app. The app can be securely downloaded from MPL's website: www.mpl.live

Minister for Youth Empowerment and Sports, C.T. Ravi said, "In these challenging times, it is essential that we remain strong and united. Today our common enemy is Coronavirus. It has taken away the lives of few and disrupted the livelihood of many. Through chess we can all come together on the weekend of May 2 and 3, contribute for a good cause and raise money which will be donated to the CM Relief Fund. I request the chess players of the nation to come forward and donate liberally to the cause in your own way. Department of Sports is supporting this unique cause to enable people to become mentally strong and also contribute to the CM Relief Fund as sports bring people together both in the physical world and online world."

R. Hanumantha, Secretary for the UKCA, said, "We are greatly appreciative of the work done by the Government and by MPL. We will mobilise the chess community in Karnataka and other States to ensure this becomes a way to demonstrate solidarity and resilience."

"We are humbled and honoured to be partnering with the Karnataka Government for such a noble cause. This is a time when the entire nation needs to come together and fight COVID-19. We are expecting participation in huge numbers and looking forward to the Tournament," said Sai Srinivas Kiran, Co-Founder and CEO, MPL.

B.Y. Vijayendra followers feed horses at Tonga Stand

Mysuru, Apr.29 (MTY&DM)- Continuing their voluntary service to society during this trying times, the followers of Chief Minister B.S. Yediyurappa's son B.Y. Vijayendra fed horses with fodder at the Tonga Stand near Kukkarahalli Lake here on Monday. They also distributed ration kits to Tongawallas and a few labourers at the spot.

Speaking on the occasion, former Taluk Panchayat President L.R. Mahadevaswamy said that labourers were facing a lot of hardship due to the lockdown. Taking note of this, Vijayendra Fans Association has been distributing food and medicines to the poor and the needy for the past one month and on Monday, fodder to the horses was supplied.

BJP leader Lakshmidevi, Association members Anand, Advocate Prasanna,Vikram Iyengar, Ashok, Satish, Umesh, Harish and others were present.

VOICE OF THE READER

A curse called Corona

Sir,

Many have already said almost everything about this merciless, pandemic called COVID-19. I am also truly trying to share my feelings with many of my friends on this curse called Corona. It has not been easy for me to understand the terrible destruction of many aspects of our life and life itself.

As always I came to USA, to spend some time with my children and grandchildren, in last November, never anticipating that I would be locked down here for how long, only the Almighty knows. It is a blessing (that is, the extended stay) because I am with my loved ones.

I am keenly following the emerging picture in Mysuru through 'SOM' and other Kannada news channels. Hopefully, people all over the globe will behave, think and understand the values of human relation, liberty and discipline once the dust settles down totally. If that does not happen alas, then all the suffering and sacrifice by the Police, healthcare workers and other Social Organisations will go in vain.

But I am, like others, already seeing in people admirable willingness to support the trade off between preserving Civil Liberties and measures taken to arrest the rapid spread of the COVID virus.

Well, the authorities have spared no effort to contain the spread of the virus, by forced quarantine of the positively tested cases for medical treatment, implementing social distance and enforcing with a heavy hand (wherever necessary) a total lockdown.

Yes, it is very much a war-like situation. In spite of all these strict measures, we are very sorry to note some irresponsible people gathering in large numbers for some reason or the other. Certainly not at a time like this.

At the same time the bright picture is that people have opened up their hearts by donating crores of rupees and also are involved in helping the poor and the needy by systematically organising supply of food and medicinal needs.

The result of the positive efforts by Police and scores of doctors and other healthcare workers (and we should be eternally grateful for them) and the public co-operation have dramatically brought down the spread of the virus in our country avoiding a dreaded explosion. This certainly is an awesome performance in a country of 1.3 billion people, where much of the population live in dense clusters even in big cities. Let's us be proud of that and be patient to wait for the lockdown to be lifted in stages. Let us remember that we earn this freedom to move about freely after a very hard and co-operative, self-preserving effort. May God bless us ALL.

— Prof. K.V. Satyan
Camp : Dallas, Texas
28.4.2020

Sadvidya Educational Institutions begin online classes for PU students

A Sadvidya student attending an online CET class

Prof. M.S.K. Narahari Babu, Secretary

Mysuru, Apr. 29- Sadvidya Educational Institution has shown that technology can help students stay positive during difficult times. With a well-structured time-table and a competent faculty, Sadvidya Composite PU College and Sadvidya Semi-Residential PU College are moving towards one common objective of uninterrupted free online coaching to the I and II PUC students.

Online CET revision classes started from mid-April, for the present II PUC students and the I PUC students who are still awaiting their results. Prof. M.S.K. Narahari Babu, Hon. Secretary, Sadvidya Educational Institutions, says, "The institution has also started revising the English syllabus for II PUC students who are still waiting to write their English paper. The CET and NEET examinations are yet to be conducted. The students have less time to prepare for these examinations and we want to boost their confidence. Another worrying factor is that the students who will get promoted to II PUC will have less time to prepare for their annual and competitive exams. So, in order to encourage them, the management has already commenced online classes of 40 minutes."

Talking about what is in store for 2020-2021, he further says, "In both the Colleges, we have already planned teaching modules by subject experts and will conduct real time tests, apart from online CET exams. The key answers too would be sent online to the students which will help them evaluate their learning and revising skills. The teaching and non-teaching staff of both the institutions will work together to solve the doubts and ensure students perform to the best of their abilities."

Sadvidya Educational Institutions is trying to convert the current situation to advantage by inspiring the students to revise for the CET and NEET exams. Dr. G.R. Kavitha, Principal of Sadvidya Semi-Residential PU College, says, "Most of them couldn't do complete justice to their first-year syllabus from which they would get 15% questions in CET and 50% in NEET."

The CET and NEET study materials are sent in advance to the students so that they are well-prepared for their online classes. She further adds, "This effort will help them fetch a good ranking and percentile which will ensure a seat in the best professional course."

Narsimha Murthy, Principal, Sadvidya Composite PU College, further adds, "Three online CET classes are held in a day with a one-hour break each. We don't want the students to get over-burdened."

The majority of the students are logging in for their online classes, and their feedback after each session is giving a boost to the faculty to deliver the best lectures.

Junaid Shariff, a II PU Science student, says, "The online classes are very informative, interesting and effective." One of the I PUC students' parents says, "I am happy with the online sessions. I feel my daughter is doing something productive nowadays." The combined efforts of both faculty and students have elevated this initiative.

Mysuru's 'Pad Woman' comes to the help of needy women

Mysuru, Apr. 29- Noting that the poor and middle class women are finding it difficult to purchase sanitary pads, especially during the COVID-19 lockdown, Karnataka State Mahila Congress President Dr. Pushpa Amarnath, who is also the former Mysuru ZP President, distributed sanitary pads to women Pourakarmikas behind Mannar's Market in city on Tuesday. Also, the Mahila Congress has launched the sanitary pads distribution programme across the State.

It may be mentioned here that like in the movie 'Pad Man' where Akshay Kumar plays the role of Arunachalam Muruganantham, who challenged patriarchal taboos with a candour and determination that many men all over the progressive world might shrink from even now, Dr. Pushpa Amarnath has been playing the role of a 'Pad Woman' by creating awareness among rural women to use sanitary pads instead of unhygienic clothes and other cloth materials.

Free Online Bridge Course for PU Science students

Mysuru, Apr.29- Deeksha has initiated a free 21-day Online Bridge Course which helps students who have completed their 10th grade to transition smoothly into Science streams of PUC. The course focuses on important concepts, problem-solving and formulae in the core subjects of Maths, Physics, Chemistry and Biology.

The Bridge Course will have 4-hour classes for 6 days a week. Post registration, students will be given a login id and password to the Impartus platform where lectures are taught and uploaded later for access, along with live doubt clarification and homework.

"The PU syllabus is in-depth, and students must have a strong hold over core concepts which are taught in the 9th and 10th grades in order to make the most of their PU years. The Bridge Course has been designed to help students become self-dependent, strengthen their foundation and have more control over their learning. This course has been developed entirely for the online platform and is an opportunity for students and teachers to adjust to the new online teaching paradigm, before the start of the semester," said Dr. G. Sridhar, Founder, Deeksha. The online bridge course starts from May 4.

Amidst the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, the education sector has shifted online, and it is likely to remain this way for a significant portion of the upcoming academic year.

The Bridge Course is a great way for students to get accustomed to the online learning way of life in the coming months. Students who have completed their 10th board exams and are waiting for announcements on the new academic year schedule can make use of this time and avail the online Bridge Course.

To register for the course, call Mob: 95137-43874, according to a press release.

In this week's Pet Talk,
Maneka explains measures to introduce resident cats to new or foster cats

Pet Talk

Maneka Gandhi

Is sodium selenite safe in dog food?

Sodium selenite can be a controversial substance when it is used in dog food. This is because, although the mineral is essential for normal cell function in all animals, selenium can be toxic in high doses. It is safe, but only if it is used in the right amount, as too much of sodium selenite can prove to be harmful to dogs.

Some well-known dog foods use far too much sodium selenite in their food. I would always recommend home-made food such as a blend of rice, dal and mashed vegetables along with dahi and an egg.

My cat is active during the night. How to control nocturnal instincts of a domestic cat?

Feline nocturnal activity is the bane of many a cat owner's existence. Just as you're slipping into deep REM sleep, a 10 lb. tabby jumps on your chest, attacks your feet, or yowls insistently to be fed.

If you're like most cat owners, you reward this behavior by feeding the cat or giving her attention to try to calm her down. You know it's the wrong thing to do, but when you're desperate for sleep you'll do whatever it takes to restore calm.

Understanding your cat's behaviour is the first step toward modifying it and getting a good night's sleep. Cats are nocturnal by nature. Wild cats hunt during the night, and domestic cats retain this tendency to be "night owls."

It's also a consequence of the typical housecat's lack of daytime activity while you're at work. She usually spends her entire day napping. When you get home from work, her day begins. You provide food, play and social interaction. By the middle of the night she's hitting her stride and is at her most rambunctious.

Research on cat behaviour at night shows that even cats who have developed sleep patterns similar to our own still wake several times during the night. Once she's awake and shifts into play mode, leaping at your every movement in bed, trying to entice you to play with her.

Perhaps if you keep her busy and active in the evening and give her the heaviest meal at night, she might sleep through the night.

What are some methods to keep my dog's teeth clean?

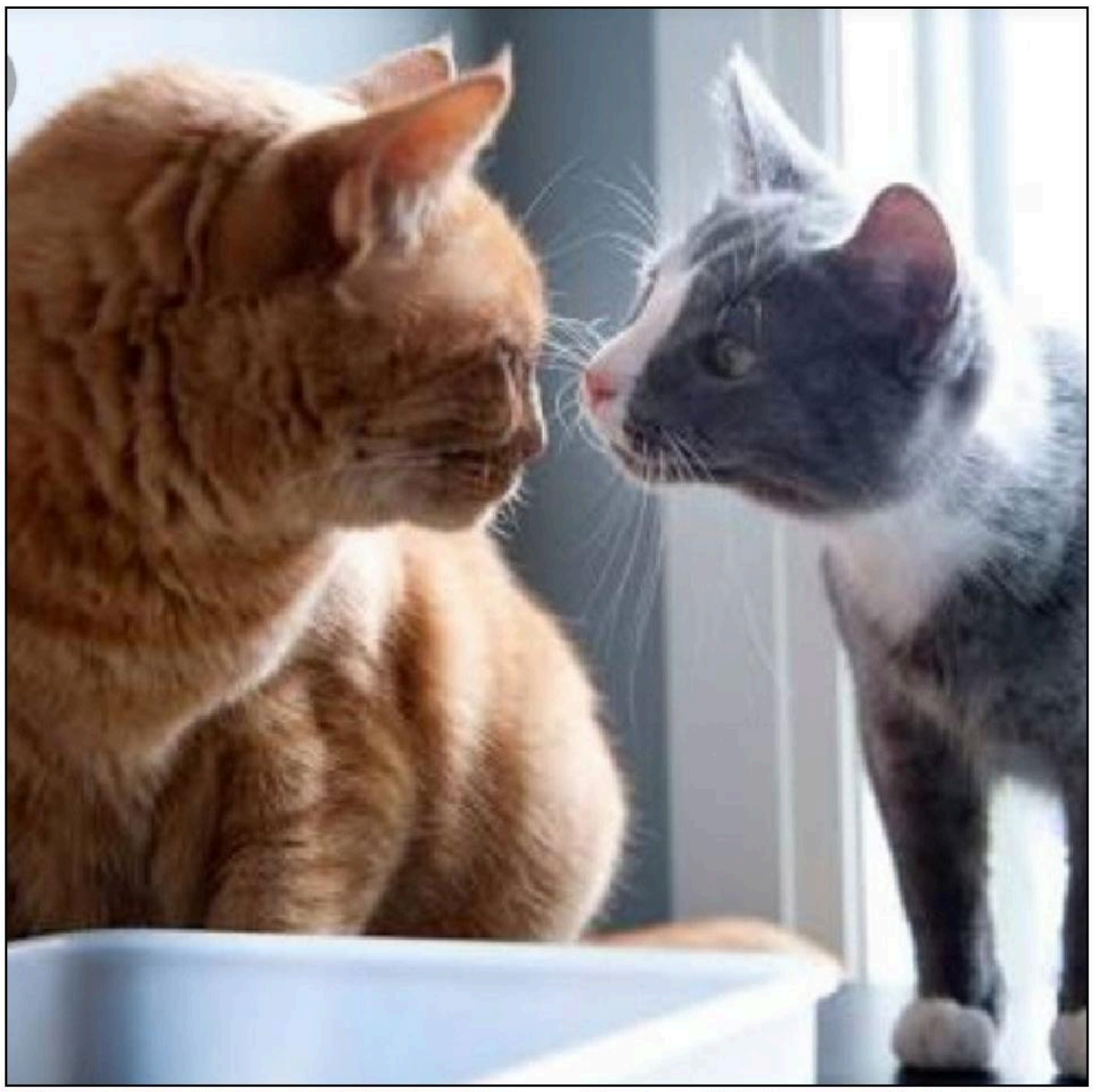
First, you'll want to get toothpaste that is made specifically for dogs. This is because toothpaste for humans contains ingredients that are toxic to our pets. Second, you can use either a canine toothbrush or a brush that fits over your fingertip. Also, tooth wipes are made to be rubbed against your dog's teeth to help remove plaque. They work similarly to toothbrushes but are not able to get into the tiny nooks and crannies that a brush does. Dog-chews have teeth-cleaning properties.

Does Zika virus impact only humans or dogs as well ?

We know very little about the possible effects of Zika in pets or livestock. At this point, mosquito control measures, and the use of repellents labelled for animals, are the best preventative measures available should you have to travel to a Zika endemic area with your pet, or if natural transmission through mosquito bites does become a problem locally in the future. There have been no reports of illness or birth defects related to Zika virus infection in animals. Interestingly, a virus that is related to Zika (Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus, or BVDV) is known to cause birth defects in calves, including microcephaly and eye deformities, when their mothers are infected during pregnancy.

People advise not to give puppies a bath until 3 months. Why?

You should only bathe puppies that are older than 12 weeks. Until they are old enough you might have to settle cleaning your puppy with a sponge bath. Before your dog is 12 weeks old the less water the better. It is said so because most shampoos available in the market aren't safe for pups below 12 weeks.



How often should I clean my dog's ears and with what ?

The regularity with which you clean your dog's ears depends on your pet's breed, coat, level of activity, age, and ear wax production. We recommend that most dogs with normal ears have cleanings at least once a month. Also, keep looking for any secretions or developing wax from time to time. Use an ear cleaning solution to wipe the ear.

Some people say there are no dangerous dogs — only dangerous owners. What is your opinion?

A puppy, no matter what breed of dog it is, isn't born a killer. All they want is to be loved, looked after, fed properly and to learn the way to behave through guidance. Like humans without these things they will turn bad. Most dog attacks are humans' faults. As a "owner" of a dog you must be able to manage these certain behavioral issues, with love, patience, good food and teaching techniques. So next time you see the news and there has been another dog attack, think about things before blaming the dog. There's no such thing as a bad dog, just unguided ones!

Should people be legally obliged to clean up their pet's mess in the street?

While it is not against the law for any person to allow a cat or dog to defecate at any sidewalk of any public street, park, beach or school ground or other designated area, any private property not belonging to the pet owner, but it is most annoying for other people and it spreads an anti-animal feeling. The fault is the owner's, but the animal often pays for it with its life. Therefore, every owner should remove any faeces/ mess left by the pet outside the house with a pooper scooper.

This is mandatory in most countries. Also, the owner of animals should try to see that their house does not have bad odours in it, as this makes neighbours angry and again leads to unnecessary conflict in which the animal is often the only victim.

How do you introduce your cat to foster kittens?

Introductions between resident cats and new or foster cats can be a delicate process. A constant rotation of different fosters in your home may freak out your resident cat. Make sure all of your pets and the fosters are up to date on their vaccinations.

There is always a risk that the fosters can transmit something to your resident pets and vice versa.

Consider keeping them separated for at least the first seven to ten days before allowing them to meet.

Each cat reacts differently to kittens. Some might ignore, some might sniff and leave while others can be aggressive.

If cats don't seem to be comfortable with the foster kittens, let there be small supervised introductions.

Continue with the controlled visits until the cats are used to each other.

Eventually you'll be able to move their food dishes and litter boxes to the same area.

Not all cats get along right away. With patience and time, and some intervention on your part, your cat will learn how to be around fosters.

To join the animal welfare movement contact
gandhim@*nic.in*
www.peopleforanimalsindia.org

PFA HELPLINE

Savitha Nagabhushan - 9845654429
DOGS, PUPPIES, CATS, KITTENS AVAILABLE FOR ADOPTION [Contact: Ph: 0821-2598213]
Timings: 8 am to 8 pm

SEND YOUR QUESTIONS

Readers with queries about their pets health, care and behavioural issues may send their questions to *SOM : voice@starofmysore.com*

After 10 Fever Clinics...

Ten COVID-19 Mobile Clinics launched in Mysuru

Mysuru, Apr. 29 (PM & BNR)- The Mysuru District Administration, which has already launched ten Fever Clinics in city to tackle Coronavirus, has now launched ten COVID-19 Mobile Clinics with a motto 'Doctors at your doorstep' to facilitate everyday medical check up and other medical facility.

The Mobile Clinics were launched at the premises of Mysuru City Corporation (MCC) Office this morning by District Minister S.T. Somashekar. Also present on the occasion were MLAs L. Nagendra and S.A. Ramdas, Mayor Tasneem, Deputy Mayor C. Sridhar, District Co-operative Union President H.V. Rajeev, MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde, DHO Dr. R. Venkatesh, DC Abhiram G. Sankar and others.

A total of 10 teams of Medical Staff including Nurses are attached to the Mobile Clinic facility and all are equipped with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and thermal screeners. After testing, free medicines will also be provided to general health issues by the Mobile Clinic team.

Today, the Mobile Clinics will cover Mandakalli, Ramabainagar, Gundurao Nagar, Gokulam 2nd Stage - Pourakarmika Colony, Giriyabovipalya, Basavanagudi - Hebbal, Manchegowdana Koppal, Kailasapuram, Kurimandi and Highway Circle.

MCC Health Officer Dr. Nagaraj, speaking to media on the occasion, said that a total of 10 Mobile Clinics are being put to service to provide health facility at the doorstep of the public and added that each Mobile Clinic will have a driver, a doctor, two staff nurses and an attender.

Concentrating mainly on COVID-19 hotspots, the vehicles will be stationed at Anganavadi, School or Community Building and serve the people of that particular area. Health check-up and necessary medicines will be provided for free in the Mobile Clinic, he said.

Financial aid to ASHA activists

Donations of Rs.2,000-Rs. 5,000 had been collected from Milk Producers Co-operative Societies and Agriculture Service Co-operative Society of District Rural Areas to provide financial assistance to ASHA workers.

Co-operation and Mysuru District Minister S.T. Somashekar symbolically distributed the same to 94 ASHA activists at the MCC premises today.

Donations to CM Fund

Various organisations donated towards CM Relief Fund and handed over cheques to the District Minister on the occasion — Vidya Vikas Educational Trust Chairman & former MLA Vasu - Rs. 10 lakh; Government Employees House Building Society - Rs.2 lakh; Kodagu Gowda Samaja, Mysuru - Rs. 1.3 lakh.

Lockdown relaxation

Speaking on the sidelines of the launch of Mobile Clinics, District Minister Somashekar said that he will be holding meeting with officials and collecting opinions from people's representatives, associations, organisations and public today about lockdown relaxation and will come out with a decision after discussing at the Cabinet meeting tomorrow.

Stating that Coronavirus cases are coming down in the district, the Minister said that today seven more patients would be discharged and with that active cases will come down to 31, which is a good sign. Also, I congratulate the Medical fraternity who saved P273 who was in very critical, he added.

Appreciating the launch of Mobile Clinics, the Minister also recalled the works of ASHA activists who are visiting every house in Nanjangud to provide health assistance and stressed that honest efforts are being made to check the virus spread in Mysuru.

Organisations which have joined their hands in providing Mobile Clinics are as follows:

- **Jain Samaj, Bharatiya Jain Sanghatan and Jain International Trade Organisation, Mysuru — Two vehicles, medicines and medical equipment.**
- **Vidya Vikas Educational Trust, Mysuru — Five vehicles.**
- **Gopala Gowda Shanthaveri Memorial Hospital, Mysuru — One vehicle.**
- **Kamakshi Hospital, J.P. Nagar, Mysuru — One Ambulance.**
- **Narayana Hrudayalaya Hospital — Five Nurses.**

District Health and Family Welfare Department — Five Doctors and Paramedical staff.

- **Vaishnavi Maternity Hospital Doctor Priyanka Kantharaj and GC's Sports Medicine Centre and Multispeciality Hospital Dr. Naveen Kumar are rendering their services voluntarily.**

Mobile Clinic services will be provided till the lockdown is lifted. Already many doctors and para-medical staff are working for the same.
However, if anyone is willing to provide voluntary services, they may contact MCC Senior Health Inspector Prabhakar on Mob: 98440-40434.

District Minister hands over Rs. 73.16 lakh for Zoo maintenance

Mysuru, Apr. 29 (MTY&KS)- District Minister S.T. Somashekar, who had assured the Mysuru Zoo authorities of mobilising funds for the maintenance of the Zoo during his visit last week, displayed his love for the animals and birds of Mysuru Zoo by handing over a total sum of Rs. 73.16 lakh to the Zoo authorities this morning which was donated by the people in his Constituency. While Rs. 72.16 lakh was handed over through a cheque, Rs. 1 lakh was transferred through Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS).

Speaking on the occasion, the District Minister said that during his visit to the Zoo last week he had adopted elephant 'Chamundi' and he was informed that the Zoo was not getting revenue ever since the lockdown. He was told that the Mysuru Zoo requires Rs. 2 crore a month for the maintenance including salaries for the staff and food and fodder to the birds and animals housed in the Zoo.

District Minister S.T. Somashekar handing over the cheque for Rs. 72.16 lakh to Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni this morning as (from left) MCC Commissioner Gurudatta Hegde, DC Abhiram G. Sankar, MLAs L. Nagendra and S.A. Ramdas look on.

To mobilise funds, the Minister had put up a message in the WhatsApp group of his Constituency, requesting people to adopt birds and animals at Mysuru Zoo by paying from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 1.75 lakh. Minister Somashekar said that many people responded and a total sum of Rs. 73.16 lakh was collected and the same was handed over to the Mysuru Zoo authorities this morning.

The Minister said that he would be writing a letter to all MPs, MLAs and Ministers requesting them to donate generously for the maintenance of Mysuru Zoo and also urged animal-lovers to contribute for the same.

Mysuru Zoo Executive Director Ajit M. Kulkarni, who also spoke, said they were not taking any grants from the Government since 2002 and were maintaining the Zoo from its own revenue, through selling tickets, animal adoptions etc. He said that they had not expected such a huge amount would be donated in such a short time.

Deputy Commissioner (DC) Abhiram G. Sankar, MCC Commissioner Gurudutta Hegde, Zoo Authority of Karnataka (ZAK) Member-Secretary B.P. Ravi, MLAs S.A. Ramdas and L. Nagendra, Zilla Panchayat (ZP) Chief Executive Officer Mahesh Kumar and others were present.

Jubilant Company: District Minister Somashekar said that Nanjangud MLA Harshavardhan has demanded a probe on how the virus entered the company and added that though it is very tough to find out the source of the virus, IAS Officer Harsha Gupta has been asked to investigate.

Factory employees denied salaries: Somashekar said that many employees working in various factories in and around Mysuru had told him that they had not been paid salaries and were facing difficulties and added that he has urged the Labour Minister to look into it.

He further said that the Labour Minister would be visiting various factories in about three days time and hold discussions with the management of the factories and take necessary action.

COVID Medical Warriors go home

(Continued from page 1)

Shifts of eight hours

More than 50 medical practitioners, over 75 non-medical professionals and a host of support and cleaning staff are functioning 24X7 at the COVID Hospital. These men and women work in three shifts of eight hours each under stringent procedures.

The staff treating positive patients in shifts cannot eat or even drink water for eight hours once they wear the PPE. If a doctor or a nurse or a paramedic completes one eight-hour shift, they are not immediately assigned to another shift. They are given a break of two shifts and then put on duty. Once their duty schedules are over, they are put under mandatory 14-day quarantine.

Real warriors

Among the warriors who went home this morning were K.R. Hospital staff nurses Vanamala, H.N. Prabha, K.M. Vanaja, Bhagyavathi, D. Sheela, S.K. Prameela, A.V. Veena and Gracy. They were given a warm send-off by hotel owner S. Ramesh, K.R. Hospital Blood Bank In-charge Dr. Manjunath, T.S. Ravindranath, Santhosh Kumar and Revanna of Lions Club. The nursing staff were given fruits and groceries as a goodwill gesture.

Speaking to *Star of Mysore*, Vanamala said that she was asked to report at the COVID-19 Hospital on Apr. 6. "I was really scared and apprehensive on doing the duties there and the first day was difficult as I was wearing the PPE. From the third day, I got used to it and liked the work I did. We used to interact with the patients and make them comfortable. The patients depended on us and doctors for even their small needs and I was happy to help," she said.

Immense work satisfaction

"We all loved the work and got enough encouragement from the patients. All arrangements by our superiors and the District Administration at the hotel and at the Hospital were good and even we could take care of our health while treating the infected patients," she added.

"It has been 24 days since I have not seen my family members. But I have immense work satisfaction and I will spend a day with my loved ones and return to work tomorrow," said Vanamala with a broad smile.

COVID-19 patients face a difficult situation. "We assured them every day that we are trying to save their lives. We are there because we have to be with the patients and it is our job. The patients are there because they are patients. It is hard for both the patients and the nursing staff. But we managed," she said.

Excellent Rank to JSSATE, Noida

Mysuru, Apr. 29- In a recent survey conducted by the Education World Magazine, JSS Academy of Technical Education (JSSATE), Noida, UP, has secured 2nd Rank in the State of Uttar Pradesh and 20th Rank at National level, among the Top 100 Private Engineering Colleges in the country.

Started in the year 1998, JSSATE, Noida, is recognised as an excellent Institution in the State of UP. A proposal has been submitted to upgrade this Institution as University, according to a press release.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice No. 24/S&T/MYS/2019 of 17.03.2020 and 25/S&T/MYS/2019 of 18.03.2020

The undersigned on behalf of President of India invites e-Tenders for the following works:

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1	Provision of Automatic Smoke, Fire Detection and Alarm system for Signal & Telecommunication installations at Chickjajur–Haveri section in connection Chickjajur–Hubballi doubling.	Rs.1,57,81,878.50/-
2	Hiring of maintenance truck/pickup van similar to Mahindra Champion or Tata Mobile for SSE/S/ Arsikere section over Mysuru Division for a period of 36 months.	Rs. 16,56,000/-
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Actor Irrfan Khan at Chinnara Mela

(Continued from page 1)

It's saddening that this day, we have to bring forward the news of him passing away, read the statement. "Irrfan was a strong soul, someone who fought till the very end and always inspired everyone who came close to him."

Despite his status as one of Bollywood's most celebrated actors, Khan had a reputation for modesty and integrity and news of his death sent India into mourning, prompting actors, fans and politicians from across the world to express their sadness at his death.

In March 2018, Khan revealed he had been diagnosed with a neuroendocrine tumour, but after extensive treatment, he recovered well enough to shoot *'Angrezi Medium'*, the film that would turn out to be his last, and whose release this March was cut short because of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Best known to English-speaking audiences as the Police Inspector in *'Slumdog Millionaire'* and for his roles in *'Jurassic World'* and *'Life of Pi'*, Khan was a Bollywood mainstay, acting in hits such as *'Haider'*, *'Maqbool'*, *'Piku'* and *'Hindi Medium'*.

Khan was born Saahabzaade Irfan Ali Khan in Jaipur in 1966, the son of a tyre seller, and went to drama school after failing as a cricketer. He struggled to make headway in the film industry, despite being cast in a small role as a letter writer in Mira Nair's 1988 *'Salaam Bombay.'* To his frustration, he only managed to find regular work in low-grade TV soap operas. Later he rose to stardom and impressed audience with his inimitable style and simplicity.

COVID - 19 UPDATE

MYSURU

Persons observed till date	:	4,762
Persons who have completed 14 days' isolation	:	3,903
Persons isolated in home for 14 days	:	813
Persons isolated in hospital for active cases	:	32
Total samples tested	:	3,402
Samples found negative	:	3,313
Samples found positive (cumulative)	:	90
Persons cured / discharged	:	58
Death toll so far in Mysuru	:	0

MANDYA

Total positive cases in Mandya	:	18
Persons cured / discharged	:	4
Death toll so far in Mandya	:	0

KARNATAKA & INDIA

Total positive cases in Karnataka	:	534
Persons cured / discharged	:	216
Death toll so far in Karnataka	:	20
Total active cases in India	:	22,982
Persons cured / discharged	:	7,796
Death toll so far in India	:	1,008

(Note: Some of Mysuru data are as on Apr. 28. Media bulletin of Apr. 29 unavailable)

38-kg fish caught from Harangi

(Continued from page 1)

He said that though he was hoping for a good catch he did not expect this big a catch. Earlier too he had caught giant Catlas but this particular fish was his biggest catch. Today's fish was sold at the local market.

Due to lockdown and lack of activities, there is a lot of fishing going on in the Harangi backwaters where youths come in many groups to fish. Typically, the fishing activity starts early in the morning and ends at around 11 pm. Local villagers from Nakoor, Shirangala, Suntikoppa, Hosathota, Kusboor and Madapura come to the backwaters to fish on the 5.6 km Harangi River stretch from the Harangi Dam to Koodige Bridge.

Traditional fishing is being held from many years in the backwaters of Harangi, which spreads over 1,886 hectares in area. Lakhs of fingerlings are released into the reservoir every year.

Some innovative villagers have even dug up irrigation ponds in the backwaters to supply water in summer to their fields. When the water storage is high at the Harangi Reservoir, these irrigation ponds get filled and submerge and when the water at the dam recedes, these ponds are full of water and fish.

Varieties of fish, including Mahseer, Catla and Rohu are released to Harangi every year and along with these, fingerlings procured from Kabini and Bhadra reservoirs are being provided to farmers at subsidised costs. Many families in this belt depend on fishing for their livelihood.

COVID-19 District Emergency Control Room

The Mysuru District Emergency Control Room for COVID-19 (Coronavirus) is functional 24x7 and has a team of operators and medical professionals who are working in shifts. All related queries will be handled professionally and necessary guidance will be provided to all callers, according to Mysuru DC.

Mysuru Helpline numbers
1077 or 0821-2423800
Karnataka Helpline number: 104
Central Helpline number:
011-23978046
Email: ncov2019@gmail.com

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